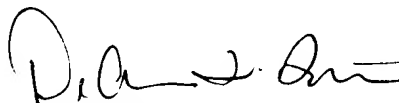


CONCLUSION

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed in response to the "Response to Request for Corrected Filing Receipt" mailed from the U.S. Patent Office on August 7, 2002 (copy enclosed). In view of the amendment set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. If there are any remaining issues or the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' Attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (617) 227-7400.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 20, 2002